



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.
SATURDAY, JULY 17.

The Corporation Debt.
There are few subjects of more general interest than that of the debt of the city, and we have taken the opportunity to collate some facts in regard to it, which may not be without interest.

The debt of the town, as reported in the annual "corporation accounts" by the several finance committees, have been as follows at the dates mentioned:

March 1st, 1819,	\$ 74,710 20
March 1st, 1847,	630,163 73
March 1st, 1860,	1,244,110 00
March 1st, 1869,	960,602 81
May 31st, 1871,	963,631 65
June 30th, 1872,	944,817 99
May 1st, 1873,	924,826 99
June 1st, 1874,	1,019,825 94
May 31st, 1875,	1,079,014 77

It will be seen that a large apparent reduction was made between 1860 and 1869 by redemption of due bills, &c., but there is reason to believe that this left out much back interest which has since been called for.

The report of 1860 was as follows:

March 1st, 1860, stock 1836 to 1869,	\$1,042,250 00
Bond C. & O. Canal,	10,000 00
Due bills 5's 6's and 7's,	100,000 00
Temporary loans,	65,937 53
Note for fish wharf,	600 00
Balance,	24,874 92

And that for 1869 was as follows:

1869, March 1st, registered stock from 1836 to 1867,	\$782,856 00
Coupon bonds,	135,500 00
Due bills outstanding (supposed),	5,000 00
Temporary loans unpaid,	8,677 76
Certificates for back interest outstanding,	12,509 00
Back interest due,	16,000 00

\$960,602 81

From 1873 to 1874 a considerable increase is reported.

The debtor account of the city for the former year is as follows:

1873, registered stock,	\$764,538 78
Coupon bonds,	135,500 00
Back interest,	11,335 55
Warrants out,	3,052 66
Temporary loans,	10,400 00

\$924,826 99

And the following for the latter:

1874, coupon bonds, old issue,	\$20,000 00
Registered stock,	26,910 00
Back interest due (supposed),	5,517 00
Warrants outstanding,	1,816 32
Temporary loans unpaid,	6,800 00

Due on building American Coal Co's wharf,

2,782 62

Due American Coal Co. in Nov.

10,000 00

Reg. coupon bonds, new issue,

946,000 00

\$1,019,825 94

The debtor account of the present year is as follows:

Coupon bonds, old issue,	\$57,000 00
Registered stock,	7,200 00
Back interest due,	2,427 00
Warrants outstanding,	3,020 77
Temporary loans unpaid,	15,000 00
Due on repairs American coal wharf,	1,300 00
New registered coupon bonds,	994,000 00
Interest due on coupon bonds,	6,267 00
Due for Board of Public Works,	2,800 00
Due American Coal Company,	10,000 00

\$1,079,014 77

These figures indicate the only considerable changes in the face of the debt since the beginning of the late war.

Judge Fisher's appeal to the President to retain him in the office of Attorney for the District of Columbia has been unavailing. The Treasury Department, the Post office Department and the War Department united with members of the Bar and other citizens of Washington in a request for his removal. Among other things, it was urged against him that he had appointed his son as his assistant, and that the son was unfit for the place. There was a general complaint of a lack of vigor in the prosecution of offenders against the law. Attorney General Pierpont requested Judge Fisher to resign, but he had not tendered his resignation. H. H. Wells, formerly Governor of this State under military rule, has been appointed to succeed him, and his commission will be immediately forwarded to Long Branch for the President's signature.

A semi-official statement is made from Washington to the effect that there is no foundation to the rumor originating in New York, that the U. S., England and Germany were co-operating for the settlement of the Cuban question.

Neither Great Britain nor Germany has hinted at such a movement. Since the failure in 1869 of the United States and Spain to agree upon a basis having for its object the cessation of the war in Cuba, no similar overtures have been made by the United States.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE. The numbers of The Living Age for July 10th and 17th, contain William Blake, from the Cornhill Magazine; an instalment of the Convent of San Marro, from MacMillan; Parts I and II of "The Dilemma," from Blackwood; an instalment of German Home Life, Sea Studies, by J. A. Froude, and Peasant Life in North Italy, from Fraser; Thomas Love Peacock, from the New Quarterly Review; A Trip into the interior of Formosa, a Geographical Day Dream, and Sir John Lubbock on Bees and Ants, from the Spectator; with the conclusion of Miss Angel, by Miss Thackeray, an instalment of Faced to be Free, by Jean Ingelow, and the usual choice poetry and miscellany.

A new volume began July 1st. With fifty-two numbers, of sixty-four large pages each, (aggregating over 3000 pages a year) the subscription price (\$8) is low; or still better, for \$10.50 any one of the American \$4 monthlies or weeklies is sent with The Living Age for a year, both post-paid. Little & Gay, Boston, Publishers.

The French Assembly yesterday passed the Public Power bill by a vote of 530 to 30, and resolved to pass to a second reading the bill relating to the election of Senators. A resolution was also adopted to discuss the budget on Monday, and then adjourn to November 30th. The left endeavored to secure a postponement of the adjournment until after the discussion of the budget and the election of the Senators but were defeated.

On Wednesday night last, Mrs. James T. Latta, of New York city, formerly of South Carolina, died at the supper table at the Alleghany Springs, of heart disease. Mrs. L. at the time of her death, was engaged in eating supper, her two sons on either side of her at the table, when she suddenly fell over into the lap of one of them and died instantly. She was about fifty years of age.

The City Council of Staunton, has reconsidered its action authorizing a contract with Mr. F. H. Hamilton for the erection of water works for that city, at a cost of \$90,000. A new advertisement for bids for the erection of the works has been authorized.

Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania is in Washington canvassing for the Speakership. He is in correspondence with a number of the new Democratic members, and his friends say that he has enough votes pledged to give him a good start.

Minister Schenck and family have left London for a two months' sojourn in Sweden and Norway.

NEWS OF THE DAY

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

George N. Jackson, the defaulting Revenue Collector, died at Louisville, Ky., about midnight on Thursday. A post mortem was held yesterday afternoon, at the instance of the insurance companies, to determine whether he had committed suicide, he having policies to the amount of \$12,500 on his life. Jackson had given bond to Collector Buckner to \$25,000, and there may be enough property to indemnify the Collector for his loss.

Two of the five bales of new cotton from the Rio Grande, received at New Orleans Thursday, have been sold at auction, one, classed good middling, at 17 1/2 cents, and the other, classed middling, at 15. The first bale of new cotton at Galveston, Texas, has been received from Brownsville, weight 485 pounds, classed good middling, and sold for 25 cents per pound.

It is said that the testimony of John D. Lee and other witnesses will refute all the charges against Brigham Young and the Mormon leaders in connection with the Mountain Meadow massacre. Brigham Young is said to have sent an emphatic command that the murder should not be committed.

The Alabama coal operators have resolved to offer shipowners in the Liverpool and Orleans trade and certain railroads extra inducements to use Alabama coal, coaling at Pensacola. A committee has been appointed at Montgomery to correspond with them on the subject.

Three suits for libel—\$20,000 damages in each case—were yesterday entered in the Court of Common Pleas, Maryland, by Governor Groome, Treasurer Compton and Comptroller Woolford against the American, for alleged malicious charges relative to the award of contract for building the House of Correction.

The joint committee of the National and Amateur Rifle Associations, of New York, have resolved to give the American team a fitting reception on their return. Each member of the team will be the recipient of a suitable testimonial. The Ninth Regiment have offered their services as an escort.

The removal of the furniture and archives of the new marble building near the War and Navy Departments was commenced yesterday and will be completed by Monday, when the Secretary of State will take possession.

Numerous bodies of Carlists are reported to be taking refuge in France, and the French Commandant at Farbes has telegraphed to Paris for instructions as to his course with regard to them. Jovellier's headquarters are at Sarriena, in the Province of Huesca.

The victorious Cornell crews left Saratoga, New York, yesterday in a special palace car for Ithaca. They were warmly greeted at Schenectady, Utica and other places, and on their arrival at Ithaca met with a grand reception. The town was illuminated.

In answer to the recent complaint of Denmark, the German Government explains that the steamer lately seen taking soundings in Danish waters was doing so for the purpose of taking a dredger to Wilhelmshafen.

The Washington Star says that information has been received in that city to the effect that J. W. Baile, late Solicitor of the Treasury, is hopelessly insane. He is now in California.

The latest dispatches from the inundated districts of England and Wales report the weather to be unusually cold and lowering. The rains have ceased and the floods are subsiding.

In Cleveland, Ohio, yesterday, Amasa G. Taft, an engineer, killed himself by taking laudanum, and Mrs. Thayer, an aged widow, hanged herself to her bedroom door knob.

Berlin Court circles declare unfounded the rumor of a proposed intervention of Germany in Spanish Colonial affairs in conjunction with Great Britain and the United States.

Judge Donohue, of New York, has given a decision ordering the bill of particulars asked for by defendant in the civil suit of the People vs. Tweed.

The commission appointed to inquire into the loss of the steamship Vicksburg have closed their labors. It is understood that the report exonerates the captain from all blame.

The Attorney General will next week announce his opinion on the Chorpennier mail case, involving nearly half a million dollars.

The yellow fever is said to be abating at Key West. No new cases have been reported for several days.

The London Financier states that the amount of coin and bullion in the Bank of England now is the largest ever known.

COLLECTION OF STATE TAXES.—For two or three years past the Legislature has been in the habit of extending the time for the collection of taxes by temporary legislation, giving the collectors until June instead of March to make their final settlement with the Auditor. Last winter the Legislature not only extended the time until June 15th, 1875, but also incorporated the extension in the general law providing for the collection of State revenues, so that it will hereafter operate from year to year unless repealed.

Section 18 of the act approved March 29, 1875, provides that county treasurers may commence to force collections the 1st of December; and section 20, that he shall "on and after the 15th day of June of each year, make up a statement of all monies collected by him on account of taxes since his last payment, and make his final settlement, with the Auditor of Public Accounts," &c.

The Educational Convention.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)
MONTGOMERY WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, July, 16.—At 4 p. m., yesterday, the Association re-assembled and Mr. W. Robin Terry, of New London Academy, Botetourt Co., read an able paper on "Instruction in Mathematics." It was discussed, at considerable length, by Prof. Venter, of Emory and Henry College, Harris, of Richmond College, Estill, of Randolph Macon College, W. W. Smith, of Bethel Academy, J. N. McGuire, of Richmond and Dr. Bedloe. The latter denounced in unmeasured terms, the Northern book publishers, who printed seven, five, or three books where one ought to do, for the purpose of extracting money from the pockets of parents. He told a story of a book agent, who had offered him a hundred dollars for his time in examining a book, if he gave a favorable opinion of it, and whom he had instantly ordered out of his office.

The report on "Instruction in History," prepared and read by Prof. N. B. Webster, of Norfolk, elicited much discussion, not on the doctrine contained in it, but with reference to a list of books recommended for examination. Rev. Dr. Jones, of Richmond, pitched into it generally, on account of the mention of Swinton's History, and Dr. Bedloe on the general principle of objection to all Northern works on the subject. Dr. Ruffner, Prof. Turner, and Messrs. McGuire and Carnie, all participated in the discussion, the last named, defending his colleague on the committee from the charge of having recommended all the books named for adoption in schools, which he held that the language of the report did not justify. He certainly had united in the report with no such idea, for none of the histories he used were mentioned at all, and he knew of many bad grave errors in some of the list.

It has rained, more or less, every day but one since I have been here, and to-day, very heavy showers have followed each other in rapid succession. The company is increasing rapidly, and the pleasure-seekers seem to be enjoying themselves as indeed they can scarcely help doing in so beautiful a place.

FIDELITY.

PARDONED.—Last night a man named Tomlin, from Clarke county, was arrested by U. S. revenue officers, who charged him with selling liquor without license. He was tried before the U. S. Court in Harrisonburg, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000 and be imprisoned in the Clarke jail one year. The people of Berryville and of Clarke generally considered this a peculiarly hard case, as from many circumstances they believed the man innocent, and it is furthermore asserted that if he had been able to raise the sum of \$25, to satisfy a ravenous revenue man, could have gone out free. Mr. T. T. Fauntleroy, Jr., of this town, was in Berryville a few weeks ago, and hearing of the case, being convinced of the absolute innocence of the poor man, Tomlin, and believing that he was a victim of these land sharks, determined at once to place the case in its proper light before President Grant. He determined to appeal to his heart in this case without the intervention of red-tape, and so wrote to a lady connection in Washington, who was at Long Branch. Within twenty-four hours an order for Tomlin's pardon was sent to the Attorney General at the U. S., and we presume that before this the man is at liberty and returned to his wife and four children. We have thought this incident worthy of a notice as creditable to Mr. Fauntleroy as well as to President Grant. —*Win. News.*

THE MOON AND THE EARTH.—We copy from a review in the London Spectator the following: "Imagine how breathless the interest with which we should have awaited each revelation of the marvellous instruments which science employs in the work of lunation discovery, if our satellite had been inhabited, and we could have discovered something like our own human life? Unhappily for such imagination is ought of the question. A place without air and water, and in which the temperature passes through a range of nearly 700 degrees within a fortnight, must present conditions of which we cannot form any conception. Another peculiarity which, for frictional heat, would be impossible, is supplied by the tides. Here they are a pretty spectacle; in the moon they cannot be seen but they must, at times, at least, keep up a very brisk cannonade. "As there is no atmosphere," writes our author, "to consume the moisture by frictional heat or break by its resistance the velocity of the descent, they must strike the moon with a force to which that of a cannon ball striking a target is feeble indeed." If these difficulties could be removed, the moon would be a most eligible place for the observation of astronomical phenomena—for finding out, for instance, all the stars so interestingly marked by the ancients. Here they would find to discover about the sun. The earth, too, would present a spectacle of great beauty. At this sunset time, the earth, nearly in the zenith of us, (the supposed lunar spectators) will be at its half illuminated phase, and even then it will show more light than we receive upon the brightest of moonlight nights. As the night proceeds the earth's phase will increase through the gibbous stages until at midnight it will be full, and our orb will be seen in its entire beauty. It will perform at least one of its twenty-four hourly rotations during the twenty-four hours (quite full) the night is more than three hundred hours long and the whole of its surface features will in that time pass before the lunar spectator's eye. At times the north pole will be turned towards our eye, at times the southern, and its polar ice caps will be seen, and the whole, marking its axis of rotation. The seas will appear—as far as can be inferred—of pale blue green tint, the continents partly colored, and the united spots would vary with the changing terrestrial seasons."

SHIP BUILDING.—By act approved March 23, 1875, the General Assembly granted to the "International Steamship Company" such corporate powers, privileges, rights and obligations as are given the company by act of the Legislature of New York, provided the company shall turn out a first class iron ship building yard, to establish an iron ship building yard, and a line of steamers to the Atlantic ocean, and a line of ocean steamers between this State and Europe. The act also authorizes the establishment of "Western iron building yards near the mouth of the Kanawha river, and other waters of the Western States, not excluded by the laws of those States."

Provision is made for the issuance of bonds by the company and for a sinking fund to meet the bonds at maturity, and the State of Virginia is to become a mortgagee for securing said bonds. The act also provides that the company shall share, the issue of bonds and the trusteeship of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company, for the enlargement, maintenance and continuation of the canal to the Ohio river, so soon as the act is accepted by the canal company.

Governor Kemper has received formal notice from Mr. A. W. Thompson, President of the International Steamship Company, office at Jersey City, N. J., that the act has been accepted by the Board of Directors of that company, and that the Local Board of Directors for Richmond has been elected. President Thompson states that "there seems to be a fair and entirely proper prospect of securing the whole capital necessary to establish two building yards, all the required works and the steamship line."

Mr. Thompson made a proposition similar to the one authorized in the act by the Legislature of Virginia about the year 1865, but as it did not then meet with favor among members of the General Assembly, he applied to the Legislature of New Jersey, which granted him the charter which the Virginia Legislature has made applicable to this State as above stated. —*Rich. Enq.*

A meeting was held last evening in London at which it was resolved to open subscriptions for the purpose of erecting a statue of Lord Byron in some public place in London. Speeches were made by Mr. Disraeli, the Earl of Stanhope and others in favor of the project.

Thirty new indictments have been presented in the United States District Court at St. Louis against distillers of that vicinity, but the names will not be divulged until the arrests are made.

A Lady's Experience in China.

Arrived in Canton 1860, obtained an introduction to the chief families of the city, and in due time was introduced to the ladies of numerous households. Sometimes there was no easy matter to unearth the ladies—so many dark passages, closets, chapels, fish ponds, bridges, corridors of flower pots. I was often fain to attach myself to some feminine servant or child, to be conveyed to where the head wife held her Court—usually in a large hall or veranda, unless she chanced to be asleep in a cupboard. Once in the presence of the mandarin's wife, I was received with the politeness of a well-bred gentlewoman, placed on the seat of honor, which resembles an English side-board with the legs cut short, and peculiarly uncomfortable to sit upon, and immediately entertained with tea and sweetmeats.

There was no awkward surprise or embarrassment evinced at my unexpected visit. If I had dropped from the moon it would have been the same; they would have received me with the same placidity. I was a stranger and a guest, and although ever coolly reserved or distant, we always ended by becoming quite intimate friends. Chinese ladies are not yet civilized enough to display "company manners," and when, as we became better acquainted, I displayed all my energy for their delectation, they did not attempt to conceal their surprise and amusement. They could not understand the complication of ends, bows, strings, fringes and buttons which adorned my dress—ends which were not to be tied, and buttons which were not to button. But what shocked them was the waist and definition of the figure consequent upon encircling it.

They consider this custom of ours as outrageous both modesty and health. By a little rule I got the better of them, for Chinese are very much smaller women than Europeans, five feet being more than the average height; consequently I fastened my claspure easily round any of them, except one plump old lady, who puffed and gasped, and declared she was being suffocated while we tutted at the clasp. The variety and shape of my garments were a source of content to them, and the number a matter of astonishment (they had only thirty-five, the smallest number a lady can appear dressed in). My jewelry they ignorantly pronounced bad; for the Chinese use the pure one, without alloy, and their ornaments have that tender, beautiful color known as "virgin gold." Never, therefore, they had all the "woman's fancy" for "trying on," and it was a curious spectacle to behold a score of Chinese women each sporting some article of European attire, laughing and enjoying the fun with the vivacity of children.

Indeed, many of their number, although married women, were little more than children for the Chinese women marry so young that they have scarcely left off playing with dolls before they have a baby to dandle; and then surely their trouble begins!

The Old Flint Lock.

An elderly man, named Backwith, residing in one of the Peconic counties, came to this city last Thursday on business. He brought with him an old fashioned flint-lock rifle to have a stock and lock put on. On the cars he fell in conversation with a party of three gentlemen from this city, when one of them, to test the reality of some of the extraordinary feats of marksmanship he boasted of, offered him \$10 to repeat some of them, to which the other two added \$5 between them. The trial came off in an old field half a mile below Rocketts, and was witnessed by about a dozen persons.

The old flint lock was fired seven times, and only once missed its aim. The old gentleman, after making two shots at small objects to one side, to get his hand steady, as he said, handed his son a potato and stationed him at fifty yards' distance, holding the potato between his thumb and forefinger. The rifle cracked, and the potato fell sloven in three or four pieces. One of the larger pieces was then thrown in the air, the marksman keeping at the same distance, and again the shot told. An inch and a half accur was then produced, and a hole bored in the fence, behind which was fastened a piece of white paper. At the distance of sixty yards the marksman sent a ball clear through the aperture, piercing the paper. At the fourth shot, from sixty yards distance, the bowl of a pipe, which the son was smoking was crushed. At the fifth shot the upper end was thrown in the air and hit. The sixth and seventh shots were delivered at a blackened five-cent nickel piece thrown up by the son, standing about thirty yards off. At the first attempt the shot missed.

The old gentleman showed considerable mortification, and laid the blame upon a bystander, who at the critical moment sneezed loud. The next attempt, however, was an entire success. The old man declined any further trials of his skill, and when offered a sum of money to repeat his first feat of shooting a potato from his son's hand, he refused, saying he didn't care to try such experiments unless his weapon was freshly cleaned. The exhibition was the more remarkable from the fact that the marksman was an old man, at least 50. His eye, however, was clear, bright, gray. His appearance is that of a poor farmer. The young man showed not the least tremor or anxiety during the dangerous experiment upon himself. The old man, referring to his son, said, "But can shoot just as well as I can." —*Richmond Whig.*

ICELAND AN ANOMALY.—What an anomaly is Iceland! It is a land of ice and fire. The island of Iceland lies close under the Arctic circle, where Winter prevails three-quarters of the year, and is surrounded by seas filled with icebergs, and yet boiling geysers and fountains of heated steam burst everywhere from its surface, while great volcanoes pour down into its valleys streams of molten lava. A land of glaciers sufficed from the chill winds that blow off the icy shores of Greenland, its harbors are open all the year round, while those of the Baltic, far to the south, are frequently closed. Lying almost beyond the range of either animal or vegetable production, the island favors localities which many more favored localities cannot furnish.

The nearest neighbors of the Icelanders are the Esquimaux of Greenland; yet, while the Esquimaux are sunk to the level of barbarism, the Icelanders have raised themselves to an elevated plane of enlightenment. Prof. Willard Fisk, in his notes on this wonderful island, says: "It lies there a link between the two hemispheres, a site where the most opposite elements (heat and cold) are constantly contending for supremacy; the seat of a race of the highest civilization in close contact with a race of the lowest barbarism." Iceland is an anomaly indeed.

ARTHUR GALT.—The Lynchburg Virginian says: Mr. Thomas J. Kirkpatrick has returned from his trip North, gathering up the ill-gotten effects of Arthur Galt. The amount recovered by him was about that heretofore stated. The deposits in the New York bank were made by letter in different amounts and from different places. At Montreal the hotel people recognized at once the photograph of Arthur. They stated that he represented himself while there as the son of a wealthy North Carolina man who had recently died, leaving him a large amount of money; that he was traveling for enjoyment, and that he would soon return South and be married. His conduct excited suspicion while there, and he left without paying his hotel bill or taking his clothing. He afterwards enclosed five dollars to the landlady. The trunks contained nothing of value except the money and some furs purchased in Canada. And this is probably the last we shall hear of Arthur Galt.

The Catholic clergy of Lawrence, Massachusetts, have issued a card condemning the riot of Monday night, and expressing the hope that the rioters may be made to feel the enormity of their crime.

Domesticating the Wood-Pecker—Its Habits, &c.

Mr. Robert Willis, (County Supervisor,) of Liberty, Fauquier county, Virginia, has given a life-long attention to the subject of Ornithology; he was the friend and correspondent of the great Audubon, up to the time of his death. He was the only original subscriber in Virginia to Audubon's celebrated and costly work, (a history of American birds,) at the price of \$500. Mr. Willis was so unfortunate during the war as to lose this valuable work. It was carried off by the invading army, no one knew whether, but subsequently, it was found in the Smithsonian Institute, where it had been lodged by Gen. Hooker. Through the influence of the editor of the "Eik Run Gazette," and the kindness of Prof. Baird, it was returned in good preservation. There is one copy of this great work in the Congressional Library, one in the State Library at Richmond, some sixty or eighty in other parts of the United States, and one hundred among the nobility and gentry of England, original subscribers at a hundred guineas each.

Mr. Willis is writing a history of birds and has allowed the use of the following extract from his notes, which will be found quite interesting. Of the wood pecker he says:

"This bird seems to supply formed for their method of procuring their food, and providing safety for their young. They bore holes in trees with mathematical exactness for their habitations, and live chiefly on insects, and for this purpose, are furnished with a straight, hard, strong, angular and sharp bill, a tongue of great length, ending in a sharp, stiff and bony thorax, decorated on each side, to strike ants and insects, when dislodged from their cells. Their toes stand two forward and two backward, which is particularly serviceable in climbing. They have a stiff tail of strong feathers, on which they lean as a prop, while they rest in climbing. His hearing is very acute; he listens for his game beneath the bark, and then he is heard 'the wood-pecker tapping on the hollow branch tree.' If caught and his tail cut off, he flies to a tree, forgetful of his captivity; he leans back, as is his custom, when he falls backward, turning back summersaults downward, until he reaches the foot of the tree. Such is his astonishment, that he does not even attempt to escape, and is easily recaptured. They live to a great age. I have completely domesticated the wood-pecker. By cutting off his tail he is unable to ascend a tree, and is necessarily kept in my yard and see a score of bobwhite wood peckers, tamer than ducks and chickens, with whom they seem to be familiar terms. I have cut off my hand, and come in when called by my name, and come in when called by their name. They are as tame as a pet, and in their actions they are really useful in destroying insects, and having an insatiable appetite for them, which they do not wish to part with. They are so useful I would not be without them. I shall exhibit them at the Empire Agricultural Fair next October." —*Eik Run Gazette.*

A SULTAN'S SISTER.—There is a very romantic incident likely to be connected with the present visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar to London. A sister of his, when a young girl, in spite of the restraints which are then around a young German clerk in the house of a Zanzibar merchant, and the two fell in love with each other. In order to be united to him she escaped to Aden, and there she was married and was also baptized. The brother of the present Sultan was then on the throne, and he and her other relatives were of a caste, named at the moment, at her change of religion and her marriage to a Christian, and who by disowning her, she accompanied her husband to Europe, and they resided at Hamburg till he met with an accident about 1870, which ended his death. His widow had become a highly educated and accomplished woman, removed to Dresden for the education of her children. Her noble character, her beauty and her romantic history have attracted the attention of many people of influence in Germany, including some members of the imperial family, and when the Sultan's visit to England was arranged it was felt that an opportunity was presented for effecting a reconciliation between her and the brother-in-law whom she has been so long estranged. With a view to this she has gone to London, and is at present staying in the house of a well known member of Parliament.

A CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN WESTMORELAND.—The ladies of Westmoreland are all at work raising funds with which to erect a Monument in honor of the "Boy of Gray" from that county who fell under the flag of the Stars and Bars. Last Tuesday week the Memorial Association gave an old fashioned Virginia dinner at Oak Grove. At night concert took place under the auspices of the Eureka Quartette of Richmond, assisted by Misses N. S. and B. B. Brown and Miss B. Colton, of King George county; Miss L. Lee, of Baltimore, Md.; and the Westmoreland Quartette. Although a severe storm set in prior to the concert, that as well as the dinner was well patronized, and a handsome sum was realized. On Thursday the ladies served another bountiful repast at "Stratford," the birthplace of Robert E. Lee—after which the Eureka gave a concert in the large reception room in the grand old homestead. A large crowd was in attendance—King George, Richmond, and Westmoreland counties only being well represented by Baltimore city, Md., and Richmond city, Va. At the conclusion of the concert Mr. F. T. Banks delivered a feeling and appropriate address. Rev. W. W. Walker, G. W. R. L. T. Beale and Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, who were expected to be present, were unable to attend. —*Fredericksburg Herald.*

LIBERALITY OF RAILROADS AS COMMON CARRIERS.—In the case of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad Company against John T. Sayers, on an appeal from a judgment obtained in the Circuit Court of Wythe by Sayers against the company, for a lot of cattle lost by an accident, in being transported in the company's cars, lately decided by the Circuit Court of Wytheville, Judge Christian delivered the opinion of the Court, after reviewing the American and English cases, said: "From this review of the American and English decisions, I am constrained to conclude that the great weight of authority is in favor of declaring that the railway law or rule of public policy, which forbids a common carrier from exempting himself from liability by express contract or otherwise for his own negligence, whether gross or ordinary, should be firmly adhered to and maintained by the courts of this State."

This settles a very important principle in regard to the liability of the railroad companies in this State, though in this case the judgment was reversed and sent back for a new trial, because in the court below the declarations of a negro brakeman and a section-master, made at a different time, were received in evidence—the Court of Appeals holding that they did not constitute a part of the res geste. —*Lynchburg News.*

A NEW KNOW NOTHING MOVEMENT.—The New York Sun is authority for the statement that a new know-nothing movement has been set on foot. It is called the American League, and was first organized in 1871. It is stated that it has 40,000 members in the State of New York, and will run a complete ticket for State officers in the election of November. Its leading principle is that none but Americans born to this country and of American parents shall be eligible to office, and it proposes that the naturalization laws shall be amended absolutely. It also lays down the doctrine of absolute non-interference in religious subjects, though it holds the law of the land supreme above any church or sect. It is a secret society, made up of lodges, with passwords, signals